



For Immediate Release
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***Care For Kids* Volunteers Paint Hallways at Galena School**

(Branson, Mo. 10-8-08) The Galena Elementary School opened its doors Monday morning, October 6, with a new look: fresh blue paint through the hallways. On Saturday, October 4, 34 volunteers from *Care For Kids*, the Silver Dollar City Foundation's program to meet the needs of kids in the community, came out to paint the halls. It was a project the school had been planning for two years, but lacked the manpower to accomplish, according to Principal Danny Humble.

Care For Kids provided the paint and supplies, and recruited volunteers, including 17 volunteers from the Silver Dollar City Attractions and 17 from the school and area churches. The volunteers painted nearly 500 feet of the hallways during the all-day work project, light blue for the upper walls, deeper blue for the bottom.

"The students and faculty really liked the change – it really brightened up the hallway," said Humble. "Anytime you can improve an environment like that, it makes a big difference."

Last year, *Care For Kids* volunteers gave a facelift to the Spokane School, painting, replacing ceiling tiles, washing windows and planting flowers.

Care For Kids partners with 14 school districts serving Stone and Taney counties and with area youth ministries to meet the needs of kids, committing more than half a million dollars over the next five years. The program addresses physical needs, providing kids in need with items from coats to wheelchairs, and also the mental and emotional needs of kids through in-school mentoring programs, where volunteers spend time with kids in need of extra help and encouragement. Programs include "Lunch Buddies," when volunteers have lunch with a child, and "Book Buddies," when volunteers read to kids, as well as tutoring.

You can become a volunteer mentor for your area school, with a time commitment as little as 20 minutes each week. Anyone interested in becoming a *Care For Kids* volunteer mentor for the 2008-2009 school year should call Foundation President John Baltes at 417-336-7077. More information about *Care For Kids* is on the website, www.silverdollarcityfoundation.com.